

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated September 3, 2008. Claims 1, 4, 7-27, and 30-33 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 4, 7-27, and 30-33 are rejected. In response, Claims 1, 17, 27, and 31 are amended, Claims 25, 26, and 33 are cancelled, and Claims 34-39 are newly added. In view of the amendment and/or for the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit the rejections are improper and should be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 4, 7-24, 27 and 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,652,896 to Yamauchi et al. ("Yamauchi"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite, in part, "re-converting means for re-converting the at least one representation to a re-converted representation by exchanging word order of the at least one representation." Claims 17, 27, and 31 are similarly amended.

The amendment is fully supported by the specification. For example, Applicants disclose, "As stated above, 're-conversion processing' may be added between 'confirmation/selection standby' and 'machine translation'. In this processing, there is carried out only conversion, e.g., exchange word order of a portion or the like which does not change meaning or nuance of sentence within 'representation conversion'." See specification, page 25, lines 7-11.

Applicants respectfully submit that Yamauchi, at a minimum, fails to disclose or suggest a re-converting means for re-converting the at least one representation to a re-converted representation by exchanging word order of the at least one representation. The Patent Office relies on column 50, lines 24-55 to teach the re-converting means as claimed in Claims 1, 17, 27, and 31. However, Yamauchi discloses "if the user **changes the word** <koisha> to "karera" in the first source-language sentence, the first source-language sentence is selected, so that the representing pattern <v-[test]-000> is selected." See Yamauchi, column 50, lines 50-53, emphasis added. The first source-language sentence is changed from "<koish> ga hendensho wo tesutoshita" ("<someone> tested a transformer station") to "karera ga hendensho wo tesutoshita" ("they tested a transformer station"). See Yamauchi, column 50, line 25, 38 and 56-57. Thus,

Yamauchi teaches editing a first source-language sentence by changing/replacing a word and not re-converting the sentence by exchanging the word order.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the anticipation rejection with respect to Claims 1, 17, 27, and 31 and the claims that depend thereon be reconsidered and the rejections withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C 103

In the Office Action, Claims 25, 26, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamauchi in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,742,505 to Fushimoto ("Fushimoto"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection by canceling Claims 25, 26, and 33 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the obviousness rejection with respect to Claims 25, 26, and 33 be reconsidered and the rejections withdrawn.

New Claims

Claims 38 and 39 have been newly added to clarify the subject matter that was claimed in cancelled Claims 25, 26, and 33. For example, the Patent Office states, "there is no claim to translate from one language to a second language and then translate from that language to another language" as Applicants previously argued. See Office Action, page 4, lines 13-16. Applicants respectfully submit Claims 38 and 39 claim translating from one language to a second language (converting means) and then translating from that language to another language (processing means).

The amendment is fully supported by the specification. For example, Applicants disclose, "in the case where translation from Japanese to German is assumed, English-German translation has generally accuracy higher than Japanese-German translation in automatic translation by machine. Accordingly, in the case where user is also familiar with English in addition to Japanese, there can be also realized a system configuration to carry out conversion of representation by first carrying out translation from the Japanese to the English to allow user to confirm [the English translation]'s result thereafter to translate [the English translation] into German." See specification, page 23, lines 11-17. Moreover, Claims 38 and 39 contain similar language to cancelled Claims 25, 26, and 33.

Applicants respectfully submit the subject matter as defined in the newly added claims is patentable over the cited art of record.

For example, as best understood, the Patent Office suggests at pages 19-20 of the Office Action, that Yamauchi teaches a first language which is input (the input language of column 37, lines 39-40), a representation of a second language that is confirmed to be the closest in meaning to the inputted first language (the translated language of column 38, lines 4-35), and a third language that the second language is translated into (the target language of column 50, lines 37-45). However, Applicants assert that even if Yamauchi teaches three languages, Yamauchi still fails to disclose or suggest a representation of the second language has a one-to-one correspondence with a representation of the third language as claimed. For instance, Yamauchi is silent regarding each retranslation of column 38, lines 4-35 being in the form of the source-language pattern of column 50, lines 37-45 which corresponds to a target-language sentence. Thus, each retranslation of column 38, lines 4-35 does not have a one-to-one correspondence with a target-language sentence of column 50, lines 37-45.

Further, Applicants submit that Fushimoto, even if properly combinable, fails to cure the deficiencies of Yamauchi. For example, Fushimoto discloses "selecting appropriate [words] from all the French words of the 2nd language obtained from the 1st German language through the intermediate English language." See Fushimoto, column 7, lines 28-30. The appropriate French words are found by first translating the German word into English words using an English-German dictionary and then translating the English words into French words using a French-English dictionary. See Fushimoto, column 7, lines 36-42. Each input German word has **multiple** corresponding English words and each English word has **multiple** corresponding French words. See also Fushimoto, Figures 6, 8, 10, and 12. Therefore, the combination of Fushimoto and Yamauchi fail to disclose or suggest, at a minimum, each of the plurality of representations of the second natural language has a one-to-one correspondence with a representation of a third natural language.

Applicants further note Claims 34-37 have been newly added. Claim 34 recites, in part, "wherein the re-converted representation has the same meaning as the at least one representation." Newly added Claims 35-37 contain similar language.

The amendment is fully supported by the specification. For example, Applicants disclose, "In this processing, there is carried out only conversion, e.g., exchange word order of a

portion or the like which does not change meaning or nuance of sentence within 'representation conversion'." See specification, page 25, lines 7-11.

Applicants respectfully submit the subject matter as defined in the newly added claims is patentable over the cited art for at least the same reasons as discussed above regarding independent Claims 1, 17, 27, and 31 and for the additional patentable elements recited therein. For example, Yamauchi discloses the first source-language sentence is changed from "<koish> ga hendensho wo tesutoshita" ("<someone> tested a transformer station") to "karera ga hendensho wo tesutoshita" ("they tested a transformer station"). See Yamauchi, column 50, line 25, 38 and 56-57. Thus, the changed sentence ("they tested") has a different meaning than the original source-language sentence ("someone tested").


For at least the forgoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit reconsideration of the same.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account 02-1818 for any fees which are due and owing. If such a withdrawal is made, please indicate the Attorney Docket No. 112857-779 on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLP

BY


Thomas C. Basso
Reg. No. 46,541
Customer No. 29175

Dated: December 3, 2008